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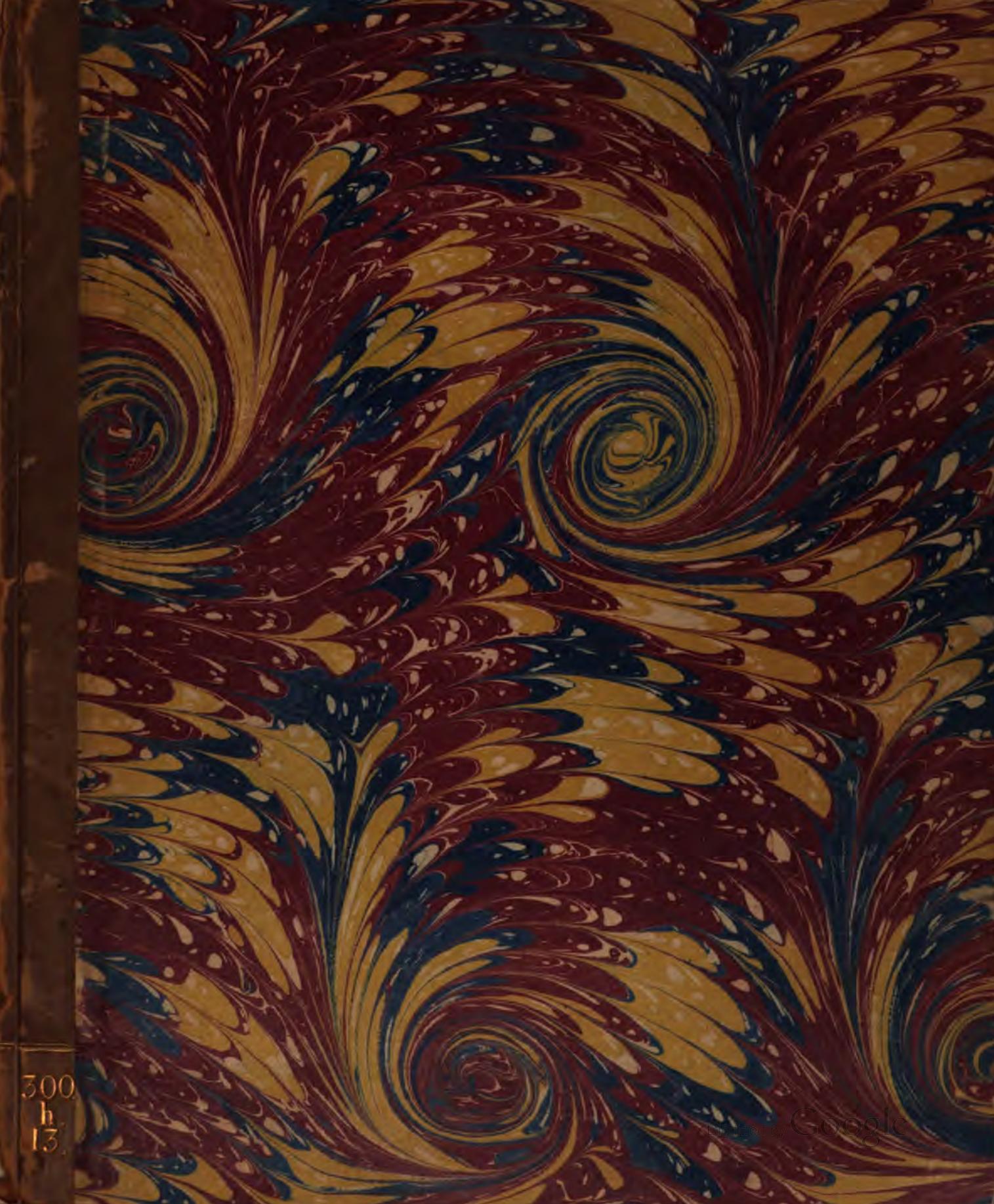
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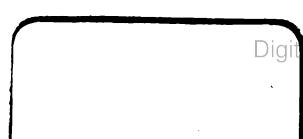


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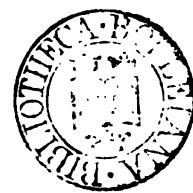
*Late Attorney-General of New Zealand.*

(AMICI RECENSUEBUNT).

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1875.



300. h. 13.



THE curfew tolls the knell of parting day;  
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea;  
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,  
And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

## II.

Now fades the glimmering landscape on the sight,  
And all the air a solemn stillness holds,  
Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight,  
And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds.

## III.

Save that from yonder ivy-mantled tower  
The moping owl doth to the moon complain  
Of such as wandering near her secret bower,  
Molest her ancient solitary reign.

## IV.

Beneath those rugged elms, that yewtree's shade,  
Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap;  
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,  
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

## V.

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,  
The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,  
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,  
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

## VI.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,  
Or busy housewife ply her evening care,  
No children run to lisp their sire's return,  
Nor climb his knee the envied kiss to share.

CAMPANA insonuit;—pratis armenta relictis  
Lassa domum pergunt, emoriente die;  
It, tectum repetens, tardis defessus arator  
Passibus; et superest nox mihi sola comes.

## II.

Paulatim in tenebras montes vallesque recedunt;  
Et cœlum et terras occupat alta quies;  
At scarabæus agit gyros, strepitantibus alis,  
Tinnitique procul mulcet ovile sopor.

## III.

At bubo, vigilans hederosæ culmine turris,  
Ad Lunam mæsto carmine sola dolet;  
Si quis, apud latebras sua regna occulta morando,  
Audeat antiqui limen adire throni.

## IV.

Hic, ubi rugescunt ulmi,—sub tegmine taxi,—  
Quâ crebris tumulis subrûta turget humus,—  
Pace quiescentes, angusto quiske cubili,  
Agreates ducunt otia longa patres.

## V.

Non vox Auroræ, flatu spirantis odoro,—  
Non vocans circa tegmen hirundo casæ,—  
Non stridens galli cantus,—non rauca ciebit  
Buccina, submissis membra reposta toris.

## VI.

Illis nulla focum lignis ardentibus uxor  
Extruet, aut peraget pensa diurna domi;  
Nec patri occurret puerorum turba, petentum  
Carpere dilectis oscula raptæ labris.

VII.

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,  
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke :  
How jocund did they drive their team afield !  
How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke !

VIII.

Let not ambition mock their useful toil,  
Their homely joys and destiny obscure,  
Nor grav'eur hear with a disdainful smile  
The short and simple annals of the poor.

IX.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave  
Awaits alike the inevitable hour :  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

X.

Nor you, ye proud, impute to these the fault,  
If memory o'er their tomb no trophies raise,  
Where through the long-drawn aisle and fretted vault  
The pealing anthem swells the note of praise.

XI.

Can storied urn or animated bust  
Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath ?  
Can honour's voice provoke the silent dust,  
Or flattery soothe the dull cold ear of death ?

XII.

Perhaps, in this neglected spot, are laid  
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire ;  
Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed,  
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

VII.

Sæpe Ceres falci subiit matura ; — colonus  
Sæpe gravi duram vomere fregit humum ; —  
Quam lætē juga per campos eduxit amœnos ! —  
Sylvæ sub valida quām cecidere manu !

VIII.

Ne curas inopum magnus contemnat honestas,  
Aut humilem sortem, læticiasve leves ;  
Nec res angustas spernat, risuque superbo  
Deneget obscuri quærere gesta loci.

IX.

Quicquid honos, vel opes vel pulchrae gratia formæ  
Vel Majestatis pompa superba dedit  
Par fatum expectant, et ineluctabile tempus ;  
Qui famæ est aditus, janua mortis erit.

X.

Nec, pro delicto, ventosa superbia jactet,  
Quod monumento illis nulla tropœa manent,  
Quâ cantu ascendens, laqueata per atria templi,  
Adsolet orantis vox resonare chori.

XI.

Excusa effigies vivo de marmore, in artus  
Expirantem animam quid revocare valet ?  
Quid prodest cineri famæ vox vana silenti, —  
Aut letho clausis auribus eloquim ?

XII.

Forsitan hic, spretæ sub tecto cespitis, olim  
Fervida divino numine, corda silent ;  
Forsitan hic, doctæ citharam plexisse, quiescunt,  
Aut dignæ imperii sceptra tulisse, manus.

### XIII.

But knowledge to their eyes her ample page,  
Rich with the spoils of time, did ne'er unfold ;  
Chill penury repressed their noble rage,  
And froze the genial current of their soul.

### XIV.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene  
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear :  
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

### XV.

Some village Hampden that with dauntless breast  
The little tyrant of his fields withstood,  
Some mute inglorious Milton, here may rest  
Some Cromwell guiltless of his country's blood.

### XVI.

The applause of listening senates to command,  
The threats of pain and ruin to despise,  
To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land,  
And read their history in a nation's eyes.

### XVII.

Their lot forbad : nor circumscribed alone  
Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined,  
Forbad to wade through slaughter to a throne,  
And shut the gates of mercy on mankind.

### XVIII.

The struggling pangs of conscious guilt to hide,  
To quench the blushes of ingenuous shame,  
Or heap the shrines of luxury and pride  
With incense kindled at the muse's flame.

### XIII.

Quam Doctrina suis dives patefecit alumnis;  
Ilorum visu pagina clausa fuit :—  
Nobilis ardores animi, venamque benignam  
Ingenii, obstruxit frigida pauperies.

### XIV.

Splendoris puri gemmas, sed luce carentes,  
Innumeratas, latebris sequoris antra gerunt ;  
Sæpe procul visu rubuit flos, natus odores  
Spargere desertis, irrita dona, locis.

### XV.

Forsitan Hampdenus rudis hic, qui sustulit agri  
Contra vim forti pectore jura sui,—  
Miltonus forsan, mutusque et cassus honore,—  
Cromvellusve insonis, et sine labore, jacet.

### XVI.

Ilausum non illis licuit captasse Senatūs,  
Aut necis aut damni posthabuisse minas,  
Aut ditasse novis opibus ridentia rura ;—  
Qualia sunt oculis acta legenda virūm.

### XVII.

Si fortuna dedit spatium virtutibus arctum,  
Criminibus posuit non secus illa modum ;  
Per clades vetuit violenter scandere regnum,  
Et durâ humanas spernere voce preces.

### XVIII.

Quum sibi conscivit mens culpam, agnoscere verum,  
Non illi ingenuas dedidicere genas ;  
Nec, turpi obsequio, lustriarunt tecta potentū,  
Musarum accensis thuribus igne sacro.

## XIX.

Far from the maddening crowd's ignoble strife,  
Their sober wishes never learned to stray :  
Along the cool sequestered vale of life  
They kept the noiseless tenour of their way.

## XX.

Yet even these bones from insult to protect  
Some frail memorial still erected nigh,  
With uncouth rhyme and shapeless sculpture decked  
Implore the passing tribute of a sigh.

## XXI.

Their names their years spelt by the unlettered muse  
The place of fame and elegy supply,  
And many a holy text around she strews,  
That teach the rustic moralist to die.

## XXII.

For who to dumb forgetfulness a prey  
This pleasing anxious being e'er resigned,  
Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day,  
Nor cast one longing lingering look behind ?

## XXIII.

On some fond breast the parting soul relies,  
Some pious drops the closing eye requires ;  
E'en from the tomb the voice of nature cries,  
E'en in our ashes live their wonted fires.

## XXIV.

For thee, who mindful of the unhonoured dead  
Dost in these lines an artless tale relate,  
If chance, by lonely contemplation led,  
Some kindred spirit should enquire thy fate.

## XIX.

Illorum, semota procul certamine vulgi,  
Nescierant pennis surgere vota vagis ;—  
Per vite placidas umbras, vallesque reductas,  
Æquam servarunt innocuamque viam.

## XX.

Sed vetat hos cineres (pietas ut muniat ossa),  
Non insignitos esse superstes amor ;  
Et lapis informis, versusque incultus, amico  
Sollicitant lacrymas prætereunte breves.

## XXI.

Nomina et setates, quas Musa indocta notavit,  
Quod superest famæ ~~com~~memorare valent ;  
Crebraque ruricola monitis sententia sacris,  
Fortiter adventum mortis obire docet.

## XXII.

Ecquis enim, oblitus curarum, oblitus amorum,  
Et quas lætitias auxia vita tulit,  
Non semel, ut mærens, oculos sub morte retorsit,  
Aut voluit dulcem deseruisse diem ?

## XXIII.

Ægra anima, horrescens avelli pectore caro,  
Exoptat lacrymas, jam moritura, pias ;  
Naturæ clamat vox importuna sepulchro ;  
Et cinere in gelido postuma flamma calet.

## XXIV.

De te, qui referens res actas vate carentum,  
Hæc tenui musa commemorare petis,  
Si quis, ad has sedes meditandi ductus amore,  
Ut socii, quænam sint tua fata, roget.

## XXV.

Haply some hoary-headed swain may say  
“ Oft have we seen him at the peep of dawn  
Brushing with hasty steps the dews away  
To meet the sun upon the upland lawn.

## XXV.

Sic fortasse senex reddet responsa colonus,  
“ Sæpe videbatur, jam properante die,  
Discutiens agili gressu per pascua rores,  
Sol simul ac primo lumine tinxit agros.

## XXVI.

“ There at the foot of yonder nodding beech,  
That wreathes its old fantastic roots on high,  
His listless length at noon tide would he stretch  
And pore upon the brook that babbles by.

## XXVI.

“ Quâ patulæ fagi, tortis radicibus alté  
Defixis, trepidans obtagit umbra solum,  
Ad medios æstus, sternebat inertia membra,  
Hærens obtutu lene fluentis aquæ.

## XXVII.

“ Hard by yon wood, now smiling as in scorn,  
Muttering his wayward fancies he would rove :  
Now drooping woeful-wan, like one forlorn,  
Or crazed with care, or crossed with hopeless love.

## XXVII.

“ Jam prope vicinam sylvam, malesuada revolvens,  
Incerte ridens, mutaque labra movens,  
Jam, posito in terram vultu, similisque dolenti,  
Quem cura aut mendax obstupefecit amor.

## XXVIII.

“ One morn I missed him on the 'customed hill,  
Along the heath, and near his favourite tree :  
Another came ; nor yet beside the rill,  
Nor up the lawn, nor at the wood was he.

## XXVIII.

“ Tandem exorta dies, quo non in culmine montis,  
Aut campo, aut sylvâ (quam peramavit) erat.  
Altera successit, sed (quos dilexerat) agris  
Et rivo, et suætis abfuit ille viis.

## XXIX.

“ The next with dirges due in sad array  
Slow thro' the churchyard path we saw him borne.  
Approach and read, for thou can'st read, the lay  
Graved on the stone beneath yon aged thorn.”

## XXIX.

“ Mane novo, rite exequiis de more peractis,  
Vidimus effosso tradita membra toro ;—  
Adsta hanæ ad sentem, lapidique incusa, Viator,  
(Cernere quæ potis es), tristia verba lege.”

## XXX.

Here rests his head upon the lap of earth  
A youth to fortune and to fame unknown :  
Fair science frowned not on his humble birth,  
And melancholy marked him for her own.

## XXX.

Hic juvenis cineres ignoti inopisque sepultos,  
Materno amplectens pectore terra tenet ;  
Quem non impedit discentem ignobilis ortus,  
Cura tamen constans adfuit, una comes.

XXXI.

Large was his bounty and his soul sincere :  
Heaven did a recompense us largely send :  
He gave to misery all he could, a tear ;  
He gained from heaven, 'twas all he wished, a friend.

XXXI.

Largus erat fidusque animi, Cœlumque benignum  
Præmia pro meritis, rite repensa, dedit ;  
(Quod potuit), lacrymam miseris præbebat ;— amicura,  
(Quod fuit in votis), nactus amante Deo est

XXXII.

No farther seek his merits to disclose,  
Nor draw his frailties from their dread abode,  
There they alike in trembling hope repose,  
The bosom of his Father and his God.

XXXII.

Desine virtutes ultra recludere vulgo,  
Et trahere e tenebris deteriora suis ;  
Spes merita et culpas pariter secura reponit  
In gremium cari, mixta timore, Dei.























































































